

Charing CE Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Telephone: 01233 712277







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Website: [www.charingschool.org.uk](http://www.charingschool.org.uk)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CharingPrimary/>



# Attendance

 Rabbits	 Squirrels	 Otters	 Woodpeckers	 Badgers	 Owls
96%	96%	93%	96%	96%	89%
Whole School – 94.7%		Year to date – 92.8%		Target – 96%	

Dear Parents/ Carers,

This week, attendance in schools has been a high-profile item on news and in the press. I have heard politicians, parents, school leaders and pupils themselves all being interviewed about the importance of attendance at school and the challenges faced by schools and parents to ensure children are in school as much as possible.

There have been many discussions about how attitudes have changed since the pandemic and how many parents still are unaware of the detrimental effect missed days at school can have upon pupils. Our current government has admitted that prolonged school closure during the pandemic was possibly not the wisest choice in hindsight and has contributed to a crisis in attendance at both primary and secondary schools.

Mr Bird has written many times here in this newsletter about this issue and we are pleased to see attendance beginning to improve at Charing CEP School but we still have lots of work to do. Please remember that we can administer medication at school, offer breakfast club as a fun and relaxed start to the school day, as well as offering nurture sessions to support well-being and further advice signposting families towards other support available.

However, we must all play our own part in ensuring children are in school, whether that is as parent, school leader, teacher or support staff. We all have good days and days which aren't, days when we feel a bit sniffly or under the weather. However, our priority should always be the children, being there to educate and support their development and give them the best possible life chances from the start.

I was delighted to walk around school with our school improvement advisor this week to look at reading. Our pupils were reading with confidence and really engaging in their learning.

To conclude, it wouldn't be a Friday newsletter without mention of the weather! It's cold, so please send your children into school with proper coats!

Mrs Golden



### **INTERNET SAFETY**

This week's poster about **FREE SPEECH VS HATE SPEECH** is at the end of the newsletter. Please continue to monitor your child's online behaviour and access. If you need help with a specific app we have not highlighted yet, please talk to Mrs Hammond.



### **ATTENDANCE**



**Attendance  
Matters**

Every student. Every day.

If your child is poorly and unable to come to school, please ensure that you inform the office via telephone or leave a message on our answer phone. Can we please request that all attendance related emails are sent to the following:

**Ms. Nimrah Rehman**  
**attendance@charing.kent.sch.uk**

Please be aware that if we haven't heard from you, we will call you or may even come to your home as we have a duty of care to ensure that all children who are absent from school are safe and accounted for.

### **DROP OFF**

Can we please remind parents that school gates shut at **8:55am**. If you arrive late, please drop off your child/ children at the school office.

For safeguarding reasons we do not allow parents/carers to drop off their children to their classes.

**MAIN ENTRY**

**ALL VISITORS  
MUST REPORT  
TO THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE**

### **\*\*CHANGES ON MCAS**

We have been trying to improve MCAS to make things slightly easier for communication between Parents and the School. A few changes have been made as follows:

**Parent Consent:** Please select the options given to update your child's consent.

**Wraparound Care:** Both Breakfast and Afterschool club bookings are placed under this tab and will run as it was before.

**Please be reminded to clear out any outstanding balances from TERM 2.**

*Compassion*

*Friendship*

*Forgiveness*

*Resilience*

*Hope*

## Announcement:

### ***Rabbits***

On **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January**, we would love for the children to bring in their own **scooter or bike for the day** (a scooter is preferred please!). Please note that your child does not have a scooter or bike, *please do not go out of your way to buy one as we have some at school.*



### ***Woodpeckers, Badgers and Owls***

Good news, we now have a subscription for **Times Tables Rock Stars!**

A massive thank you to PTFA for making this possible by funding this purchase which hopefully will be of great benefit to our children and families. Your child will bring home a parent letter along with their login details which are unique to them. If you have access to a device at home, please encourage your child to login and play.



Thank you for your support, let's get rocking!

*Compassion*

*Friendship*

*Forgiveness*

*Resilience*

*Hope*

# REMINDER

## MEDICATION SAFETY

We understand that at times children are unwell and need to stay at home to recover, however please remember that we can administer *prescribed medication*, so if your child is feeling better but needs medicine, this can be brought to the office and managed as necessary. The office would be able to assist in this.



## HEALTHY LUNCHES



We promote healthy eating at Charing CE Primary School and would appreciate parents adhering to the healthy eating guidelines as below:

**Sweets:** Please do not pack sweets or chocolate bars.

**Drinks:** children under 5 receive free milk with their snacks and water is available for everyone whenever they want to drink. Please do not send in fizzy drinks with your child's packed lunch.

**Nut Free:** Please be reminded that we are a nut-free school. We have children in school who have potential life-threatening nut- allergies which can be triggered by direct or indirect contact with nuts in the environment. To keep our children safe, we request that parents please find a nut-free alternative. This also includes NUTELLA or any CHOCOLATE spread.

Thank you for your co-operation.

## SCHOOL DINNERS

### **Dinner Money cost £2.43:**

Please be reminded school meals are to be paid for in advance. Our caterers will not allow a debt to build and as of next term, any unpaid accounts will result in your child not receiving a meal and you will need to provide a packed lunch.



## WRAP AROUND CARE

### **Payments for wrap around care:**

If you have unpaid sessions, please ensure that these balances get cleared off by the end of term. **We advise you to frequently check your 'Outstanding Balances' in your BROMCOM app to keep up to date with payments.**

Unpaid sessions will result in you losing your child's place at the club for term 3 and will be offered to other families. If you are experiencing problems in paying, please contact the school office.

# Dates or your Diary



Date	Event
TERM 3	
15 <sup>th</sup> January	Rabbit's class Scooter and Bike Day.
17 <sup>th</sup> January	Victorian dress up day – <b>Woodpeckers, Badgers, Owls</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> January	All Day Breakfast- All school



caterlink  
feeding the imagination

## ALL DAY BREAKFAST!!

THURSDAY 18TH  
JANUARY 2024

### BREAKFAST ITEMS

Chipololata Sausage -  
Meat Or Veggie  
Omelette  
Mini Hash Browns  
Baked Beans  
Slice Of Homemade Bread

### DESSERT BREAKFAST

Chocolate & Banana Oaty  
Square  
or  
Yoghurt  
Or  
Fresh Fruit



Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

# COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

**Tia**

**Kiki**

**Ellie**

**Sienna**

**Alex**

**John**

**Loki**

**Billie-Rae**

**Lena-Marie**

**Bonnie**

**Liam**

**Lia**

**Kash**

**Miley**

**Isaac**

**Kamyah**

**Jessica**

**Lucan**

**Archie**



*Compassion*

*Friendship*

*Forgiveness*

*Resilience*

*Hope*

# This Week in Worship

Our overall theme in Term 3 Collective Worship is ...the life of Jesus

This week's focus has centred around Mary and Joseph's visit to the temple to dedicate baby Jesus to God. Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple, which was part of their Jewish custom. They thanked God for their baby and offered a sacrifice of two doves in thanks to God for baby Jesus. We thought about how this relates in our lives to the Christening or Baptism of a baby, a child or an adult. The children shared their own experiences.

We also discussed how there is a lot of waiting in the Christmas story – God's people had waited a long time for the promised Messiah, and then finally Jesus was born, but hardly anyone knew about him or who he was. When Mary and Joseph took baby Jesus to the Temple they met a man named Simeon . He was a man who followed God and was waiting for God's promised Messiah to come to Earth. The Bible tells us that as soon as Simeon saw the baby Jesus, he knew it was the promised Messiah. I wonder how he knew. Mary and Joseph were surprised at what Simeon said and amazed. I wonder how they felt when they heard all these things about their baby.

Dear Father God,

Thank you for making our world and  
all that is good in it.

Thank you for all the people we love  
and all those who love us.

Thank you that you are the Light of  
the world and that you love each and  
every one of us,

And that you are with us on our life's  
journey.

Amen.



Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope



# **FUN** **PIANO** **LESSONS**



**FOR BEGINNERS**

**AT CHARING COE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**FOR MORE INFO EMAIL SEAN AT:**

**BANDSKILLS@HOTMAIL.COM**

**VISIT BANDSKILLS.COM**

**ONLY 2 SPACES AVAILABLE**



*Compassion*

*Friendship*

*Forgiveness*

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*Hope*



The Rugby Effect  
at CHARING SCHOOL Presents

**TAG RUGBY CLUB**

Non-Contact Rugby **FUN** for Boys & Girls years 3-6

Thursdays - 3.15 to 4.15: **Only £3.50** per session

Term 3 Dates - Jan 11/18/25 Feb 1/8

Come and **TRY** it  
**First session FREE!**

To enquire about places please email child's name and  
year to [steven.cream@btinternet.com](mailto:steven.cream@btinternet.com) or

text 07756 097636

**\*Places will be allocated on a first come first served  
basis!**

- Ex WASPS Rugby Community Coach  
RFU Level 2 Qualified Coach - DBS - First Aid

# E-scooters – are you breaking the law?



**Can I ride my e-scooter to school or work?**

**No, it's Illegal...**

E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles and are required to be taxed and insured. It's not possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them.

**Can I ride my e-scooter on the pavement?**

**No, it's Illegal...**

You cannot use e-scooters on public footpaths, cycle lanes or roads.

**What happens if I'm caught using my e-scooter in public spaces?**

**The scooter may be seized and as a result, destroyed.**

If stopped by an officer, you may be asked to complete a breath and drugs test. You also risk a £300 fine and six penalty points on your licence for no insurance.



**Kent  
Police**

## **Think before you buy:**

The number of electrical scooters being used on our streets has risen, as well as reports of serious injury and fatalities.

For more information and advice on the use of e-scooters visit [www.kent.police.uk/road-safety](http://www.kent.police.uk/road-safety)

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# What Children & Young People Need to Know about **FREE VS HATE SPEECH**

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

## Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, a collective of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the GEC app, the world's first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL  
EQUALITY  
COLLECTIVE

The  
National  
College

NOS  
National  
Online  
Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

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<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/42/schedule/1A/text/1/Everyone%20has%20the%20right%20to%20freedom%20of%20expression>